

Referee Abuse Impact - Referee Quotes

Listed below are some direct quotes from Referees capturing what impact referee abuse and mistreatment has on them:

- “The money that I earn for refereeing games is almost never worth the yelling, arguing, and the questioning of my calls.”
- “I am still shaking as I write this report. It was really scary!”
- “I was afraid to leave until after all of the spectators left.”
- “I know that coach. He is my friend’s dad. He isn’t like that in real life. Please don’t tell him I sent this report. I don’t want my friends to be mad at me.”
- “I was so afraid to make a mistake after they yelled at me that I stopped blowing my whistle. The more they yelled, the more I couldn’t think or make calls! I don’t think I should ref anymore.”
- “If the spectators know what all of the calls should be, why don’t they become referees? It’s not as easy as it looks when you’re on the field.”
- “It’s not always the loud, shouting calls that affect me the most, it’s the under-the-breath, passive aggressive comments that are sometimes worse.”
- “It’s challenging to do my job when I have to also worry about intolerant behavior coming at me from all sides of the field.”